



Wisconsin's Heartland... On the Grow

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
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Rec'd 12-18-14

December 15, 2014

Office of the Commissioner of Railroads
610 N. Whitney Way, Room 110
PO Box 7854
Madison, WI 53708-7854

Dear Commissioner:

Project ID 4560-05-50
North Milwaukee Street, City of Plymouth
(WSOR Crossing Signals)
Sheboygan County
Crossing No. 387 094Y MP 139.51

The City of Plymouth has reviewed the above mentioned crossing including the June 13, 2014 correspondence from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation regarding the proposed crossing improvement. **After review, the City of Plymouth wishes to inform the Commissioner that the City is in support of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation crossing upgrade as proposed in the June 13, 2014 letter.** A copy of the letter is attached for your convenience.

The City of Plymouth reviewed the crossing including the potential of voluntarily vacating the street. A public hearing was conducted by the City of Plymouth and sought feedback from the community regarding the crossing. The Plymouth Council voted 8-0 not to proceed with vacating North Milwaukee Street at the WSOR railroad tracks. Some of the reasons from the general public and Common Council for voting to leave the crossing open include but not limited to:

1. No documented crash history to warrant the closing of the crossing for safety reasons.
2. The preferred route of Orange Cross, previously Plymouth Ambulance Association, to go north is across the rail crossing.
3. Sartori Cheese, a prominent business, requires adequate access between two facilities and that access would be negatively impacted if the street was vacated.

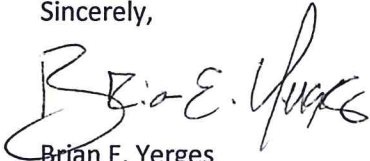
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4. The trains on the crossing are in "Yard Limit" speeds of four (4) miles per hour and represent a low risk for accidents.
5. The corridor and crossing is the only north/south route through the City of Plymouth near downtown.
6. Truck traffic turning at Mill Street and Caroline Street (STH 67) route cannot make turn without encroaching into oncoming traffic which presents a potential safety concerns as a result of a crossing closure.

Numerous other reasons were given for leaving the crossing open and the general feedback from the community was that this crossing is a safe crossing and represents low risk to the community. We also believe that the plan laid out by DOT in the June 13, 2014 letter is appropriate and reasonable. We look forward to providing additional feedback at any scheduled public hearings.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (920) 893-1271, Ext. 311 or by e-mail at byerges@plymouthgov.com.

Sincerely,



Brian E. Yerges

City Administrator/Utilities Manager

CC: JP, H4